

REMARKS

A. GENERALLY

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview held on October 15, 2008. Applicant's interview summary is attached hereto.

Claims 103-135 remain in the Application. Claim 103 has been amended.

Claims 1-102 were previously canceled.

No new matter has been added.

B. CLAIM REJECTIONS

1. Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 103-113 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2 on the grounds that the limitation in independent claim 103 (reciting "a user device connected to the gateway via....") lacks an antecedent basis for the "gateway." Applicant has amended claim 103 to recite "a gateway" as recommended by the examiner.

Claims 103-135 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1 as failing to meet the written description requirement. The Office Action asserts that there is no support in the specification for the following limitations recited in the independent claims:

Claim 103: "receiving at the remote gateway agent a client registration request from the remote proxy agent, wherein the client registration request creates a client-to-server connection through the firewall between the remote proxy agent and the remote gateway agent...."

Claim 114: "receiving at the remote gateway agent a client registration request from a remote proxy agent, wherein the client registration request creates a client-to-server connection through the firewall; [and] registering the remote proxy agent with the remote gateway agent...."

Claim 125: "a registration processor comprising instructions for sending a registration request to a remote gateway agent residing on a gateway via a first network, wherein the client registration request creates a client-to-server connection through a firewall interposed between the remote proxy agent and the remote gateway agent and wherein the gateway is accessible to a user device via a second network...."

The Office Action asserts that these limitations are not supported by the Specification of the present application in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, was in possession

of the claimed invention. Based on this conclusion, the Office Action further asserts that the limitations represent new matter and modify the scope of the invention. For the purpose of applying art, the limitations have been read in light of the disclosure appearing in the Specification (as filed) at page 10, lines 12-23 (¶0033 of the Application as Published).

Applicant respectfully disagrees. The Specification discloses the following (disclosures referenced to the Application as Published; emphasis added by underlining):

[0030] It is noted herein that small business 115 does typically not operate on a shared corporate WAN, and does not, typically, individually host and maintain a proxy server. A router 109 is illustrated in this example as a routing point between Internet 110 and small business 115. Small business 115 has a permanent access line 113 to Internet 110, which could be for example, a digital subscriber line (DSL), a fiber optic connection, a wireless radio connection, a Local Multipoint Distribution Service (LMDS), a cable/modem connection, and so on. Such persistent connection types typically use firewall technology and address translation capability, along with agent routing capability often implemented within one machine such as router 109. It is also assumed in this example that business 115 uses an ISP to gain Internet connectivity.

[0033] In a preferred embodiment, WAP phone 107 in practice operated by a remote user, connects to a proxy server such as is exemplified in WAPGW 104 (proxy software not illustrated) having RAGW 105 operational therein. From WAPGW 104, phone 107, using micro-browser 108, connects to any server within Internet 110 such as the illustrated server 111. In addition, when any of PCs hosting RPA are logged into and registered with WAPGW 104, a user operating WAP phone 107 may access a designated PC 116a-n to perform certain tasks, access certain information and so on. Typically, a user operating WAP phone 107 is an employee or another trusted associate of business 115. In one embodiment, trusted clients may be given access to certain business machine such as any one or more of PCs 116a-n.

[0035] Within the domain labeled Gateway an identification and security check 202 is performed at the gateway, which is analogous to WAP-GW 104 of FIG. 1. Once the RPA hosting machine is logged in, it waits in the background for activity. This activity will come in the form of a remote request. It is noted herein that login 200 would typically happen on the designated gateway of the remote wireless service provider of the user whose business machine hosts the RPA instance. This gateway hosts RAGW software previously described. In one embodiment, a third party and not the provider of the user's wireless network might host the gateway. In this case, the user will need to enter the URL or other location indicator of the designated gateway hosting the RAGW instance of software.

Paragraphs 0030, 0033 and 0035 describe structures that are illustrated in FIG. 1 (shown below). Paragraph 0030 describes router 109 as having “firewall technology and address translation capability.” Paragraph 0033 establishes that PCs hosting the RPA must be “logged into and registered with WPAGW [gateway] 104” as a condition for accessing a PC from a remote device (in this particular embodiment the remote device is a WAP phone). Paragraph 0035 also discloses that the RPA hosting machine must login to the gateway before a request can be made.

FIG. 1 also illustrates element 109 as a “router/firewall.”

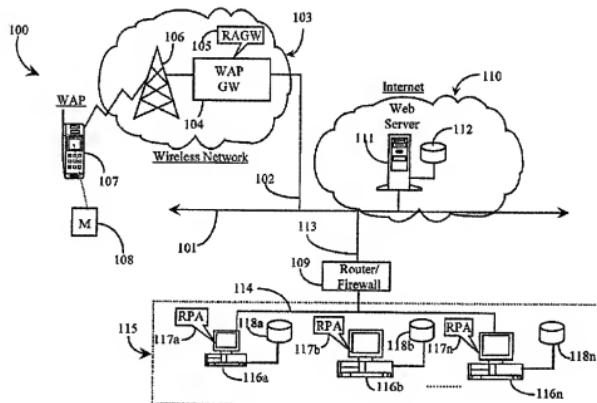


Fig. 1

The limitation, “wherein the client registration request creates a client-to-server connection through the firewall between the remote proxy agent and the remote gateway agent,” states a well-known consequence of a device originating communications from behind a firewall. The origination of the registration message configures the firewall to allow responses to be sent from the remote gateway agent to the remote proxy agent. The claimed systems and methods take advantage of this client-server relationship to allow another client (in this example, a client residing on a WAP phone) to communicate with

the remote proxy agent and, consequently, the server on which the remote proxy agent is installed.

Applicant submits that one skilled in the art would appreciate that the structures as described and illustrated could perform the claimed functions and that the claims as currently listed are supported by the written description.

2. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 103-104, 106-107, 109-112, 114-115, 117-118, 120-123, 125-126, 128-129 and 131-134 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,324,648 issued to Grantges. Claims 105, 116 and 127 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grantges in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0118671 filed by Staples et al. (hereinafter, "Staples"). Claims 108, 113, 119, 124, 130 and 135 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Grantges in view of U.S. Patent 6,711,611 issued to Hanhan (hereinafter, "Hanhan").

As discussed with the examiner, the Grantges reference does not teach the limitations of the independent claims of the present application. For ease of discussion, FIG. 1 of Grantges is presented below:

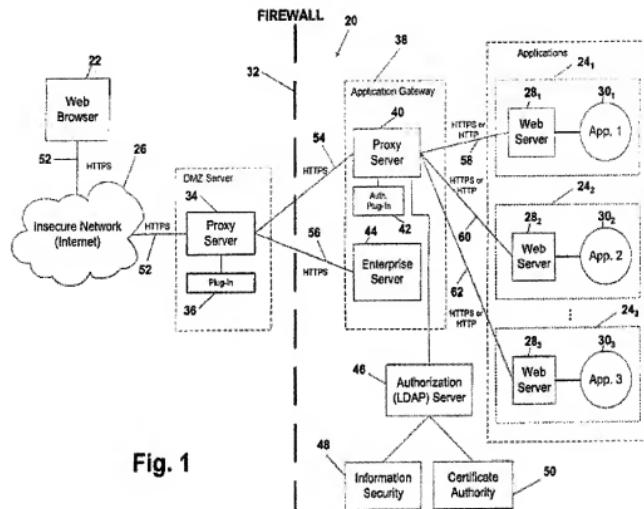


Fig. 1

In Grantges, the application 24 comprises a destination or web server 28 and a program 30. Browser 22 interacts with program 30 via web server 28. The gateway proxy server provides a map of a path from the web server (28) through a firewall 32 to the browser 22. (See, Grantges, FIG. 1; Col. 5, line 65 to Col. 6, line 2.) The browser 22 is permitted to communicate with web server 28 by an exchange of certificates that is regulated by an authorization plug-in 42.

It is important to note that if the firewall 22 and the permission structures were eliminated, browser 22 could communicate directly with web server 28. In contrast, the limitations of the independent claims at issue here require that the workstation/remote proxy agent initiate communications with the remote gateway before a request is submitted by a user device/client. This step is necessitated because from the perspective of the remote gateway both the user device/client and the remote gateway agent are "clients" of the remote gateway and cannot communicate directly. Thus, the remote

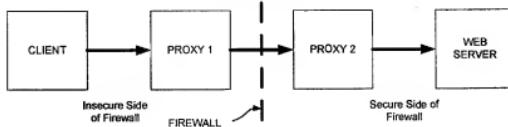
gateway agent acts as a server to both the client operating on the user device (located on the insecure side of the firewall) and the remote proxy agent operating on the processing system (located on the secure side of the firewall). Grantges does not teach or reasonably suggest these limitations and, in fact, teaches against it.

By utilizing the firewall in this way, the claimed inventions of the present application eliminate the complex firewall/authorization server structures while providing security to the data held on a workstation 116. Additionally, the remote proxy agent allows communications to pass through the firewall without the need for a proxy server (illustrated as a component of application gateway 38 in FIG. 1 of Grantges) as required by Grantges or for other components of application gateway 38.

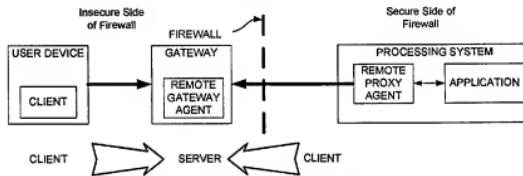
Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 103 is not anticipated by Grantges. Because independent claims 114 and 125 recite substantively equivalent limitations, those claims are also not anticipated by Grantges. It follows that the claims that depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 103, 114 and 125 are not anticipated by Grantges.

The general flow taught by Grantges and the flow taught by the present application are illustrated below:

GRANTGES



CLAIM 103



The client-to-server relationship between the remote proxy agent and the remote gateway agent is established upon registration of the remote proxy agent with the remote gateway agent and the need for no modifications to pass through the firewall without the need for a proxy server (Illustrated as a component of application gateway 38 in Fig. 1 of Grantges) as required by Grantges.

Applicant notes that Grantges describes an authentication process between a “web server” and an authorization server (see, claims 5 and 6 and description at Col. 7, lines 9-12). However, the web server referenced in these disclosures is web server 44 (labeled “Enterprise Server in FIG. 1 of Grantges) and not web server 28. Grantges does not disclose a registration message from a remote proxy agent (117 in FIG. 1 of the present application) residing on a processing system (116 in FIG. 1 of the present application).

C. CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as currently amended/listed are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests that this amendment be entered and that the current rejections of the claims now pending in this application be withdrawn in view of the above amendments and remarks.

D. REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Applicant respectfully requests that if any of the pending claims are not in condition for allowance, the Examiner contact Applicant's counsel at the number listed below prior to the issuance of another office action in this matter to attempt resolution of any claim issues by Examiner's amendment.

Respectfully Submitted,



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